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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 TRIPOLI 001053

SIPDIS

STPDTS

DEPT FOR NEA/MAG; COMMERCE FOR NATE MASON; TUNIS FOR SEAN COOPER

E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/18/2017

SUBJECT: U.S. COMPANIES WIN \$2 BILLION WORTH OF INFRASTRUCTURE CONTRACTS AS REWARD FOR POLITICAL RELATIONSHIP REF: TRIPOLI 1023 TRIPOLI 0000105

- 1.(C) Summary: U.S. companies AECOM and the Tennessee Overseas Construction Company (TOCC) inked separate deals worth a total of \$2.0 to \$3.0 k AECOM TO MANAGE ALL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS
- 2.(U) After nearly two months of negotiations, Houston-based company AECOM signed a mega-contract December 13 with Libya's Housing and Infrastr FOCUS ON TRAINING, HUMAN CAPACITY BUILDING
- 3.(C) Reflecting the GOL's continuing focus on capacity-building, the contract obliges AECOM to train over 100 HIB executives, engineers and te TOCC WINS MEGA-CONTRACT FOR HOUSING, INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS
- 4.(U) Separately, the Tennessee Oveseas Construction Company (TOCC), in partnership with Washington Group International, signed a LD 1.5 billic LARGE NUMBERS OF AMERICANS TO RETURN TO LIBYA?
- 5.(C) TOCC Finance Director Jennifer Windus (protect), who signed for the company, told the Charge that the company plans to send 50 American  $\varepsilon$ AECOM, TOCC BENEFIT FROM GOL'S DESIRE TO SEND POLITICAL SIGNAL
- 6.(C) Windus told the Charge that Dorda and other HIB officials had stressed that they wanted to award the contract to a U.S. company as "a sym
- 7.(C) Separately, AECOM's Jim Thompson (protect) shared with P/E Chief December 13 his impression that being an American company had been "extr HIB SEEKS GREATER U.S. COMPANY PARTICIPATION IN LIBYA'S INFRASTRUCTURE RENAISSANCE
- 8.(C) In a meeting with the Charge before the signing ceremony, HIB Chairman Abuzaid Dorda sounded a similar refrain, saying more U.S. companie PUBLIC COMMITMENT TO ANTI-CORRUPTION ...
- 9.(U) In a subsequent televised meeting of the HIB that resembled nothing so much as a game show, Dorda continued sounding the American theme.
- 10.(C) Companies accused of paying bribes or engaging in other forms of graft would be assumed to be guilty unless able to prove otherwise, wou ... BUT OLD HABITS DIE HARD
- 11.(C) On the margins of the televised meeting, Brown & Root country director Richard Weeks (protect) told P/E Chief that the HIB delayed provi
- 12.(C) Comment: While certainly good news for American business, AECOM and TOCC's wins underscore that the GOL, encouraged by its interactions